

Nectar Mandarin Hybrid

Origin

A cross between Wilking and Wilking from Israel. The selection was released in South Africa in 1996.

Ownership

Patented. Managed by Citrogold.

General Description

A mid to late maturing mandarin selection. The fruit is high quality with an orange rind colour. The trees are vigorous.

Tree Characteristics

The tree is vigorous with Clementine like leaves. There is variation in performance between different observation sites in South Africa as yields have been variable. This can probably be attributed to young tree age.

Rootstock Options

Suggested rootstocks are Carrizo/Troyer citrange. Rootstocks inducing small fruit size and lower acid are not advised.

Fruit Characteristics

Fruit size has also been variable, from medium small to medium large (counts 1XX to 4). The fruit shape is fairly flat and sometimes has a slight neck on the stem end on the larger fruit. The rind is smooth to slightly pebbly. The fruit is fairly easily peeled but oily. Colour break in the cold areas is late May to early June, developing an orange colour in July. Fruit quality is very good, with high sugars and good acid levels. Maturity in the cold

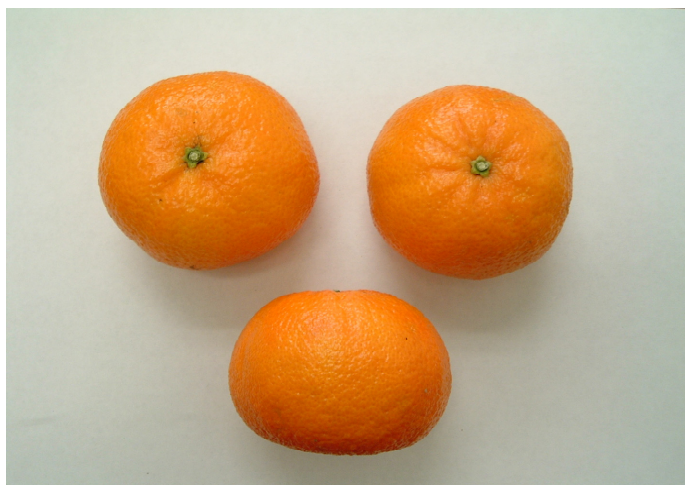
production areas is around early to mid July and mid June in cooler inland areas. There is the odd seed under cross pollination, but in solid plantings this diploid is seedless.

Production

Yields of 25 to 30 tons per hectare are expected for mature orchards.

General

Pruning may be necessary to improve fruit size. Prone to alternate bearing which can be corrected if careful fertilization and irrigation practices are applied. Under Israeli conditions, not sensitive to Alternaria. No specific pest and disease problems have been noted under South African conditions. The Nectar has shown to have very thin rinds under low nitrogen regimes, which leads to fruit splitting. Harvest, packing and shipping requirements are as for Clementines and other mandarin hybrids.



Nectar fruit showing typical shape and orange external colour - note slight pebbling of the rind



Nectar tree under pulse drip fertigation showing high production in early years - trees 3 years after planting.



Version 1: May 2012

Status, Area Suitability and Availability

This selection has only been planted in experimental blocks in the cold coastal and cool inland production areas of South Africa. There is only limited data in South Africa. Propagation material is not currently available from the Citrus Foundation Block due to lack of demand.

Key References

The information in this fact sheet is based on evaluations by Citrus Research International.

Evaluation Data

Internal Quality - Nectar on Troyer citrange - Count 3/4 - Citrus Foundation Block						
Date	Juice %	Brix	Acid	Ratio	Seed	Colour
02/07/2008	53.9	14.2	1.55	9.2	0	2-3
21/07/2008	58.9	16.4	1.69	9.7	0.3	1-2
28/07/2008	53.9	18.1	1.39	13.0	0.1	1

Note: These data are from the 12 year old trees at the CFB for the 2008 season; maturity is 2 to 3 weeks later than the commercial East Cape Citrus Regions where estimated peak maturity is early July.

Count Distribution

Count	1XX	1X	1	2	3	4	5
%	2.5	10.5	17.2	23.8	26.6	12.4	7.0

Production

24 kg per tree and 27 tons per hectare at 4.9 x 1.8 m spacing.

Export %

Grade	Percentage
1	68
2	22
3	10
4	

Note: These fruit size and production data are from 3 year old trees on Carrizo citrange in the Sanger region, Fresno County of the Central Valley of California, USA.



Waxed and labelled Nectar fruit showing attractive orange colour and typical shape and rind texture.



Disclaimer: Information contained in this publication is provided as general advice only. For application to specific circumstances, professional advice should be sought.